Texas Education Agency Standard Application System (SAS)

Program authority:	P.L. 107-110 1003(g)	, ESEA o	f 1965,	as amended	by NCLB of 200	1, Section		R TEA USE ONLY Vinte NOGA ID here.
Grant Period:	July 9, 2018	to July 31	, 2020				\neg	
Application deadline:	5:00 p.m. Ce	ntral Time	e, May 2	9, 2018		•	P	lace date stamp here.
Submittal information:	original signa only and sign contractual a aforemention Docu	iture, and led by a p greemen ed date a ment Col	I two copperson a t, must be and time atrol Cer ation Ag	pies of the a outhorized to be received at this addr oter, Grants	Administration D North Congress	d on one side nt to a ivision	THENT CONTROL CENTER	RECEIVED XAS EDUCATION AGENCY 10 PAY 29 PM 4: 49
Contact information:	Doug Dawso (512) 463-26		lawson@	Dtea.texas.c	qov;	311 2		CY 9
		Sche	dule #1	-General i	nformation			
Part 1: Applicant Infor	nation							
Organization name	County-D	istrict #		Campus n	ame/#	1/	Amendm	nent#
Athens Independent School District	107-901			Athens Mi	ddle School/041			
Vendor ID #	ESC Reg	ion#				1	DUNS#	
	10							
Mailing address				1	City		State	ZIP Code
104 Hawn Street					Athens		ГХ	75751
Primary Contact								
First name		M.I.	Last	name		Title		
Jami			Ivey			Assistar Schools		intendent of
Telephone #		Email address			FAX#			
9036776900		jivey@a	athensis	d.net		9036776	3908	
Secondary Contact								
First name		M.I.	Last	name		Title		
Jennifer		N	Risin	ger		Principa	Principal	
	Email address FAX #							
Telephone # 9036773030				nsisd.net		9036772		

I hereby certify that the information contained in this application is, to the best of my knowledge, correct and that the organization named above has authorized me as its representative to obligate this organization in a legally binding contractual agreement. I further certify that any ensuing program and activity will be conducted in accordance with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations, application guidelines and instructions, the general provisions and assurances, debarment and suspension certification, lobbying certification requirements, special provisions and assurances, and the schedules attached as applicable. It is understood by the applicant that this application constitutes an offer and, if accepted by the Agency or renegotiated to acceptance, will form a binding agreement.

Authorized Official:

First name Jennifer Telephone # 903-677-3030 M.I. Last name N Risinger Email address

<u>irisinger@athensisd.net</u>

Date signed

A

Signature (blue ink preferred)

5/21/18

701-18-112-025

903-677-2111

Title

Principal

FAX#

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Standard Application System (SAS)

Only the legally responsible party may sign this application.

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Via telephone/fax/email (circle as appropriate)	By TEA staff person:		

Schedule #1—General Information County-district number or vendor ID: 107-901 Part 3: Schedules Required for New or Amended Applications Amendment # (for amendments only):

An X in the "New" column indicates a required schedule that must be submitted as part of any new application. The applicant must mark the "New" checkbox for each additional schedule submitted to complete the application. For amended applications, the applicant must mark the "Amended" checkbox for each schedule being submitted as part of the amendment.

Schedule	Schedule Name	Applicat	Application Type		
#		New	Amended		
1	General Information		\boxtimes		
2	Required Attachments and Provisions and Assurances		N/A		
4	Request for Amendment	N/A			
5	Program Executive Summary				
6	Program Budget Summary				
7	Payroll Costs (6100)				
8	Professional and Contracted Services (6200)	See			
9	Supplies and Materials (6300)	Important	- - 		
10	Other Operating Costs (6400)	Note For			
11	Capital Outlay (6600)	Competitive Grants*			
12	Demographics and Participants to Be Served with Grant Funds				
13	Needs Assessment		- - 		
14	Management Plan		 - 		
15	Project Evaluation				
16	Responses to Statutory Requirements				
17	Responses to TEA Requirements				
18	Equitable Access and Participation				

^{*}IMPORTANT NOTE FOR COMPETITIVE GRANTS: Schedules #7, #8, #9, #10 and #11 are required schedules if any dollar amount is entered for the corresponding class/object code on Schedule #6—Program Budget Summary. For example, if any dollar amount is budgeted for class/object code 6100 on Schedule #6—Program Budget Summary, then Schedule #7—Payroll Costs (6100) is required. If it is either blank or missing from the application, the application will be disqualified.

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Schedule #2—Required Attachments and Provisions and Assurances County-district number or vendor ID: 107-901 Amendment # (for amendments only): Part 1: Required Attachments

The following table lists the fiscal-related and program-related documents that are required to be submitted with the application (attached to the back of each copy, as an appendix).

#	Applicant Type	Name of Required Fiscal-Related Attachment		
No fi	iscal-related attachments are req	uired for this grant.		
#	Name of Required Program-Related Attachment	Description of Required Program-Related Attachment		
No p	program-related attachments are	required for this grant.		
Part	2: Acceptance and Complianc	e		
D	sorting on V in south of the business			

By marking an X in each of the boxes below, the authorized official who signs Schedule #1—General Information certifies his or her acceptance of and compliance with all of the following guidelines, provisions, and assurances.

Note that provisions and assurances specific to this program are listed separately, in Part 3 of this schedule, and require a separate certification.

X	Acceptance and Compliance
\boxtimes	I certify my acceptance of and compliance with the General and Fiscal Guidelines.
	I certify my acceptance of and compliance with the program guidelines for this grant.
⊠	I certify my acceptance of and compliance with all General Provisions and Assurances requirements.
	I certify that I am not debarred or suspended. I also certify my acceptance of and compliance with all Debarment and Suspension Certification requirements.
\boxtimes	I certify that this organization does not spend federal appropriated funds for lobbying activities and certify my acceptance of and compliance with all Lobbying Certification requirements.
	I certify my acceptance of and compliance with No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 Provisions and Assurances requirements.

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	Schedule #2—Required Attachments and Provisi	ions and Assurances
Cou	nty-district number or vendor ID: 107-901	Amendment # (for amendments only):
Part	3: Program-Specific Provisions and Assurances	
\boxtimes	I certify my acceptance of and compliance with all program-specific progra	rovisions and assurances listed below.
#	Provision/Assurance	
1,	The applicant provides assurance that program funds will supplement supplant (replace) state mandates, State Board of Education rules, are or local funds. The applicant provides assurance that state or local funds other purposes merely because of the availability of these funds. The services and activities to be funded from this grant will be supplement not be used for any services or activities required by state law, State I	nd activities previously conducted with state inds may not be decreased or diverted for applicant provides assurance that program ary to existing services and activities and will Board of Education rules, or local policy
2.	The applicant provides assurance that the application does not contain the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) from general	n any information that would be protected by release to the public.
3.	The applicant provides assurance that they will contract and work in g school transformation partner and agency-provided technical assistan	ood faith with the TEA vetted and matched ce.
4.	The applicant provides assurance that they will identify a project mana redesign effort.	ager to lead the partnership, restart, or
5.	The applicant provides assurance that they will provide access for one and its contractors.	•
6.	The applicant provides assurance that they will attend and participate assistance meetings, other periodic meetings of grantees, and sharing office.	of best practices through the TEA program
7.	For Partnership Implementation models (P2 Partnership and IMO I assurance that they will award a campus charter in alignment with S.E.	3. 1882.
	For New School Implementation models (Reset and Fresh-Start) as	nd Redesign, the applicant provides

assurance that the necessary operational flexibility (such as staffing, calendars, time, and budgeting) will be provided to campus leadership and the school transformation partner to fully develop and implement a school

For Reset, the applicant provides assurance that the campus will have new school leadership and instructional

transformation. For applicants implementing the District of Innovation (DOI) operational flexibility plan, this includes an assurance that exemptions received through the DOI innovation plan will be extended to the campus

developing and implementing a school redesign plan.

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Schedule #4—Request for Amendment				
County-district number or vendor ID: 107-901	Amendment # (for amendments only):			
Part 1: Submitting an Amendment				

This schedule is used to amend a grant application that has been approved by TEA and issued a Notice of Grant Award (NOGA). **Do not submit this schedule with the original grant application.** Refer to the instructions to this schedule for information on what schedules must be submitted with an amendment.

An amendment may be submitted by mail **or** by fax. Do not submit the same amendment by both methods. Amendments submitted via email will not be accepted.

If the amendment is mailed, submit three copies of each schedule pertinent to the amendment to the following address: Document Control Center, Grants Administration Division, Texas Education Agency, 1701 N. Congress Ave., Austin, TX 78701-1494.

If the amendment is faxed, submit one copy of each schedule pertinent to the amendment to either of the following fax numbers: (512) 463-9811 or (512) 463-9564.

The last day to submit an amendment to TEA is listed on the <u>TEA Grant Opportunities</u> page. An amendment is effective on the day TEA receives it in substantially approvable form. All amendments are subject to review and approval by TEA.

Part 2: When an Amendment Is Required

For all grants, regardless of dollar amount, prior written approval is required to make certain changes to the application. Refer to the "When to Amend the Application" guidance posted in the Amendment Submission Guidance section of the Grants Administration Division Administering a Grant page to determine when an amendment is required for this grant. Use that guidance to complete Part 3 and Part 4 of this schedule.

Par	t 3: Revised Budget			<u> </u>		3
			Α	В	С	D
#	Schedule #	Class/ Object Code	Grand Total from Previously Approved Budget	Amount Deleted	Amount Added	New Grand Total
1.	Schedule #7: Payroll	6100	\$	\$	\$	\$
2.	Schedule #8: Contracted Services	6200	\$	\$	\$	\$
3.	Schedule #9: Supplies and Materials	6300	\$	\$	\$	\$
4.	Schedule #10: Other Operating Costs	6400	\$	\$	\$	\$
5.	Schedule #11: Capital Outlay	6600	\$	\$	\$	\$
6.	Total direct costs:		\$	\$	\$	\$
7.	Indirect cost (%):		\$	\$	\$	\$
8.	Total costs:		\$	\$	\$	\$

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Schedule #4—Request for Amendment (cont.)					
County-district number or vendor ID:		or vendor ID:	Amendment # (for amendments only):		
Part 4	Part 4: Amendment Justification				
Line #	Schedule # Being Amended	Description of Change	Reason for Change		
1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					
6.					

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Schedule #5—Program Executive Summary

County-district number or vendor ID: 107-901

Amendment # (for amendments only):

Provide a brief overview of the program you plan to deliver. Refer to the instructions for a description of the requested elements of the summary. Response is limited to space provided, front side only, font size no smaller than 10 point Arial. Click and type here to enter response.

Athens Middle School serves a diverse population in both socio-economic status and emotional maturity. Our unique population of students often face emotional and social instability. Our goal at Athens Middle School is to produce well-rounded citizens who can be successful in high school and beyond. We plan to achieve this through several strategies:

- 1. Initial mindfulness training for staff
- 2. Social Emotional Learning book studies throughout the school year for students and staff with monthly focus
- 3. Gratitude journals for staff and students
- 4. Flexible seating to meet the needs of diverse learners
- 5. Training for and implementation of Kagan Strategies
- 6. High interest leveled library to motivate students to read
- 7. Stipends for Mentor teachers across core subjects
- 8. Stipends for club and organization leaders

In addition to increased literacy, AMS would like to train staff and students on the importance of mindfulness and social-emotional learning (SEL.) Mindfulness seeks to deepen awareness and concentration which would lead to increased academic time. Research has proven that mindfulness training can offset distractions to meet the needs of our students both socially, emotional and academically. Studies show that if staff or students have divided attention, the learning that occurs is often rote versus a deep understanding of the content which would result in high performance on high stakes test such as STAAR. Starting our classes with consistent reminders to be present allow students reset and focus, again saving instructional time.

Social-emotional learning focuses on the process of students and staff effectively applying knowledge and skills necessary to manage emotions. Studies find that mindfulness reduces feelings of stress and improves anxiety and distress when placed in a stressful social situation. This is a critical coping skill during the middle school years. Students learning to set and achieve goals, show empathy, and maintain positive relationships results in successful adults later on in life. We would use the funds from this grant to not only provide the initial mindfulness training to staff members, but to provide continued training and resources to teachers and students.

The goal at Athens Middle School for the 2018-2019 school year is to implement book studies and campus wide themes, along with the elementary campuses, to create cohesion within the district and foster a sense of community. AMS will work with elementary staff to focus on one component of SEL each month. Students will deepen their understanding of this characteristic and how to implement it their daily life through literacy. Students will be introduced to a book focused around a specific SEL trait each month and will have this trait infused into their classroom instruction. Students will receive classroom guidance as well as daily reminders of the trait to increase mindfulness. The collaboration among the campuses within the district will create a common household language. Middle school students can help teach the monthly skills to elementary students, through use of technology, to increase confidence and leadership.

Studies show that students in lower economic homes often do not have access to books or materials to help their students cope socially or emotionally. Students in Athens ISD in grades k-8 will receive books each month to help facilitate these conversations both at home and at school. Funds would be used to purchase the books needed to have students participate in the book studies each month. The books would vary from chapter to picture books to hold student interest and continue engagement. The topics would carry across curriculum to ensure students received a broad understanding of how to apply the SEL for that month to their daily life.

In order to reinforce this mindset, both staff and students will receive a gratitude journal. These journals cultivate an attitude of gratefulness for the little things, leading our staff and students to be happier and more satisfied with their lives. Our expectations would be that every staff member and student would write 3 things in which they are grateful for in their gratitude journal at the start of each day to help them refocus their energy on the positive even throughout the

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challenges they may face.

In addition to the mindfulness and SEL training staff would undergo, classrooms would transform into a place for the 21st century learner to thrive. Flexible seating goes hand in hand with creating an autonomous learner who is empowered in decision making in their classroom. Offering a variety of seating allows students to be comfortable in their space and fosters a trusting relationship between staff and student. These differentiated seating areas provide a sense of ownership in the classroom when students are given a choice of how to best learn. A 2012 study from the University of Minnesota found that students participated 48 percent more in discussions in a classroom with collaborative group seating versus traditional lecture-style seating, and also improved their performance on standardized tests. Flexible seating allows students to quickly and easily pair up, work in small groups, or discuss as a whole class – without moving mountains of heavy desks to establish eye contact.

In order to align ourselves academically with the elementary campuses, staff will undergo training on the Kagan Strategies. While the district has Common Instructional Framework in place, Kagan Strategies furthers the educator's toolbox through cooperative learning strategies that promote communication in the classroom. Research shows that these strategies boost confidence as well as increase engagement in the classroom. Kagan Strategies have a direct impact on both interpersonal and academic skills, helping to build a well-rounded student. Classroom teachers will continue to evolve through PLCs focusing on increasing engagement and increasing literacy skills across the curriculum. Our staff will receive training once a week in Kagan and SEL/mindfulness strategies to make sure that we are utilizing them with fidelity and continuing to make an impact with them throughout the year..

In order to pique student interest, Athens Middle School will create independent reading libraries geared towards middle school students and varying in readability to meet our students' needs. Students will have access to a variety of print through technology that includes graphic novels, anthologies, and current events. The students will be able to access these texts in their classroom, as well as the campus library to increase reading across the campus. Our goal is to provide current and high interest reading material to foster a love of reading among our students.

We also feel as though Athens Middle School would greatly benefit from the addition of Mentor Teachers. Each grade level would have one Reading and one Math mentor teacher. Mentor teachers can provide invaluable help to new teachers as well as train them in the Athens ISD culture. These mentors would be experienced, patient, knowledgeable veteran teachers who are selected and trained to guide new teachers and those on their team needing additional guidance. They will also guide the new teachers with curriculum, teaching strategies, successful scheduling, and communication skills. They can also provide suggestions on improvements that their teammates can make. New teachers can turn to their mentors for support when times are tough and seek advice. Through this grant, we would offer a stipend for the mentor position to those well experienced teachers.

In addition to the mentor stipends, stipends for club and organization leaders would be offered as well. Students involved in a club or extra curricular activity feel a sense of belonging. Clubs and organizations offer students a way to plug in and practice the SEL mindfulness that is being taught in classes with their peers. By providing a stipend for teachers who are willing to sponsor a student organization, AMS will grow in programs that students can identify with and belong to.

In conclusion, Athens Middle School will increase academics as well as emotional well being through the variety of strategies mentioned above. Teachers will not only ignite the love for learning through comfortable environments for students to thrive but teach them invaluable coping skills to survive day to day life as adults.

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Schedule #5—Program Executive Summary (cont.)		
County-district number or vendor ID: 107-901	Amendment # (for amendments only):	
Provide a brief overview of the program you plan to deliver	Refer to the instructions for a description of the requested pyided, front side only, font size no smaller than 10 point Arial.	
recinition the summary. Response is inflitted to space pro-	ovided, front side only, font size no smaller than 10 point Arial.	
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Schedule #6—Program Budget Summary						
County-district number or vendor ID: 107-901			Amendment # (for amendments only):			
Program autho	rity: P.L. 107-110, ESEA of 1965, as	amended b	y NCLB of	2001,	Section 1003(g)	
Grant period:	July 9, 2018 to July 31, 2020		Fund cod	e: 211		
Budget Summ	nary					
Schedule #	Title	Class/ Object Code	Program Cost		Admin Cost	Total Budgeted Cost
Schedule #7	Payroll Costs (6100)	6100	\$25,00	00	\$	\$25,000
Schedule #8	Professional and Contracted Services (6200)	6200	\$20,00	00	\$	\$20,000
Schedule #9	Supplies and Materials (6300)	6300	\$150,0	00	\$	\$150,000
Schedule #10	Other Operating Costs (6400)	6400	\$		\$	\$
Schedule #11	Capital Outlay (6600)	6600	\$37,84	11	\$	\$37.841
	Consolidate Administrative Funds				☐ Yes ☐ No	
Total direct costs:		ect costs:	\$		\$	\$
Percentage% indirect costs (see note):		ee note):	N/A		\$	\$
Grand total of budgeted costs (add all entries in each column):			\$		\$	\$232,841

NOTE: Indirect costs are calculated and reimbursed based on actual expenditures when reported in the expenditure reporting system, regardless of the amount budgeted and approved in the grant application. If indirect costs are claimed, they are part of the total grant award amount. They are not in addition to the grant award amount.

Indirect costs are not required to be budgeted in the grant application in order to be charged to the grant. Do not submit an amendment solely for the purpose of budgeting indirect costs.

If selected for a competitive grant, your award amount will be the lesser of the grand total of budgeted costs as stated on this schedule (the box with the bold outline), or the sum of all line items listed on this schedule, or the maximum allowable award amount. TEA is not responsible for math errors.

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Schedule #7—Payroll Costs (6100)					
County-district number or vendor ID: 107-901				nent # (for amend	lments only):
	Employee Position Title	Estimated # of Positions 100% Grant Funded		Estimated # of Positions <100% Grant Funded	Grant Amount Budgeted
Ac	ademic/Instructional				
1	Teacher		13		\$25,000
2	Educational aide				\$
3	Tutor				\$
Рго	gram Management and Administration				
4	Project director				\$
5	Project coordinator				\$
6	Teacher facilitator				\$
7	Teacher supervisor				\$
8	Secretary/administrative assistant				\$

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	T			
9	Data	entry clerk	\$	
10	Grant	accountant/bookkeeper	\$	
11	Evalua	itor/evaluation specialist	\$	
Aux	ciliary		<u> </u>	
12	Couns	elor	\$	
13	Social	worker	\$	
14	Comm	unity liaison/parent coordinator	\$	
Edu	cation	Service Center (to be completed by ESC only when ESC is the applicant)		
15				
16	- 10			
17 18				
19				
20				
		oyee Positions		
21	Title		\$	
22	Title		\$	
	Title		\$	
24				
		Extra-Duty Pay, Benefits Costs		
	6112	Substitute pay	\$	
	6119 6121	Professional staff extra-duty pay	\$	
	6140	Support staff extra-duty pay Employee benefits	\$	
	61XX	Tuition remission (IHEs only)	\$ \$	
30		Subtotal substitute, extra-duty, benefits costs	\$	
_		Grand total (Subtotal employee costs plus subtotal substitute, extra-duty, benefits		
31	_	costs):	\$25,000	

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Standard Application System (SAS)

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	Schedule #8—Professional and Contracted Services (6200)				
	County-district number or vendor ID: 107-901 Amendment # (for amendments only):				
NO	OTE: Specifying an individual vendor in a grant application does not meet the applications. TEA's approval of such grant applications does not constitute approval of	icable requirements for sole-source			
510	Professional and Contracted Services Requiring Specific	ic Approval			
	Expense Item Description	Grant Amount Budgeted			
	Rental or lease of buildings, space in buildings, or land				
626	Specify purpose:	\$			
	a. Subtotal of professional and contracted services (6200) costs requiring specific approval:				
	Professional and Contracted Services				
#	Description of Service and Purpose	Grant Amount Budgeted			
1	Matched School Transformation Partner (See Program Guidelines and Program- Specific Instructions) \$				
2	2 Kagan Instructional Strategies training \$10,000				
3					
4		\$			
5		\$			
6		\$			
7		\$			
8		\$			
9		\$			
10		\$			
11		\$			
12					
13	The state of the s				
14		\$			
	b. Subtotal of professional and contracted services:	\$20,000			
	 Remaining 6200—Professional and contracted services that do not req specific approval: 	3			
	(Sum of lines a, b, and c) Grar	nd total \$20,000			

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	Schedule #9—Supplies and Materials (6300)				
County		mendment number (for a	mendments only):		
	Supplies and Materials Requiring Spontage Expense Item Description	ecific Approval	Grant Amount		
6300	Total supplies and materials that do not require specific approva	l:	Budgeted \$150,000		
		Grand total:	\$150,000		

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Schedule #10—Other Operating Costs (6400)				
County-District Number or Vendor ID: 107-901 Amendment number (for amendments only				
	Expense Item Description		Grant Amount Budgeted	
6411	Out-of-state travel for employees. Must be allowable per Program Guidelines and grantee must keep documentation locally.		\$	
6413	13 Stipends for non-employees other than those included in 6419		\$	
6419	Non-employee costs for conferences. Requires pre-authorization	tion in writing.	\$	
6411/ 6419	Travel costs for officials such as Executive Director, Superinter Members. Allowable only when such costs are directly related allowable per Program Guidelines and grantee must keep out documentation locally.	to the grant. Must be	\$	
64XX	Hosting conferences for non-employees. Must be allowable per Program Guidelines, and grantee must keep documentation locally.		\$	
	Subtotal other operating costs requ	iring specific approval:	\$	
	Remaining 6400—Other operating costs that do not rec	quire specific approval:	\$	
	21	Grand total:	\$0	

In-state travel for employees does not require specific approval.

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Schedule #11—Capital Outlay (6600)

County-District Number or Vendor ID: 107-901

Amendment number (for amendments only):

#	Description and Purpose	Quantity	Unit Cost	Grant Amount Budgeted
3669	—Library Books and Media (capitalized and c	ontrolled by library)		Daugetta
1	Scholastic	N/A	N/A	\$15,000
6X	X—Computing Devices, capitalized			1.01000
2			\$	\$
3			\$	\$
4			\$	\$
5			\$	\$
6			\$	\$
7			\$	\$
8			\$	\$
9_			\$	\$
10			\$	\$
1			\$	\$
	(—Software, capitalized			
2			\$	\$
3			\$	\$
4			\$	\$
5			\$	\$
16			\$	\$
17			\$	\$
18			\$	\$
	—Equipment, furniture, or vehicles			
19	Flexible Seating Stability balls	100	\$19.98	\$1,998
20	Portable lap desk	100	\$25.00	\$2,500
1	Active Learning Stool	50	\$65.00	\$3,250
2	Bouncy Bands for desk	100	\$14.95	\$1,495
3	Empire Chairs	25	\$70.00	\$1,750
4	Wobble Cushions	50	\$16.95	\$848.00
5	Standing Desk	50	\$220.00	\$11,000
6			\$	\$
7			\$	\$
8			\$	\$
cre	—Capital expenditures for additions, improve ase their value or useful life (not ordinary rep	ments, or modification	ons to capital assets	that materially
9				\$
			Grand total:	\$37,841

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	Schedule #12—Demographics and Participants to Be Served with Grant Funds														
	County-district number or vendor ID: 107-901 Amendment # (for amendments only):														
for the	Part 1: Student/Teacher Demographics of Population To Be Served With Grant Funds. Enter the data requested for the population to be served by this grant program. If data is not available, enter DNA. Use the comment section to add a description of any data not specifically requested that is important to understanding the population to be served by this grant program. Response is limited to space provided. Use Arial font, no smaller than 10 point.														
Student Category Student Number							Student Percentage				Comment				
disac	omical Ivantag	ed	514	4			73%								
profic	ed Eng cient (L		166	5		_ :	24%								
	plinary ments	_					%								
	dance			N	Α		%								
	al drop Gr 9-1:			N	Α		%								
Teac	her Ca	tegor	/ Tea	acher	Numb	er	Геасће	r Perc	entage		Comment				
1-5 Years Exp. 22			22			43%									
6-10	Years I	Ехр.	7	7			17%								
11-20) Years	Ехр.	6	6			14%					****			
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Part 2	2: Stud ol, proje	ents/	eache be se	rs To rved u	Be Sei	rved \ ne gra	Vith Gr nt progr	ant Fu	ınds. En	ter the	numbe	r of stud	lents in	each	grade, by type of
Scho	ol Typ	e: 🗵	Public		Open-E	nrollm	ent Cha	rter	☐ Priv	ate Non	profit	☐ Priva	te For P	rofit	☐ Public Institution
	Students														
PK	K	1	2	3	4	4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12		Total							
							220	225	225					670	
							•	Tea	chers						
PK	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		Total
							12	12	12					36	

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Schedule #13—Needs Assessment

County-district number or vendor ID: 107-901

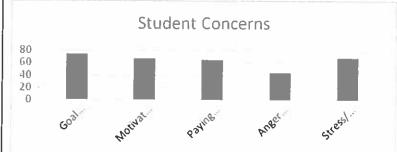
Amendment # (for amendments only):

Part 1: Process Description. A needs assessment is a systematic process for identifying and prioritizing needs, with "need" defined as the difference between current achievement and desired outcome or required accomplishment. Describe your needs assessment process, including a description of how needs are prioritized. If this application is for a district level grant that will only serve specific campuses, list the name of the campus(es) to be served and why they were selected. Response is limited to space provided, front side only. Use Arial font, no smaller than 10 point.

Athens Middle School (AMS) is currently identified as a "Focus School" for the 2017-2018 school year. This campus continues to make improvements. In 2015, it was labled "Improvement Required" (IR), but transformation needs to continue in order to propel this campus to academic excellence.

Both the district and campus gather input from stakeholders throughout the year using surveys and meetings. Raising test scores has been a priority since AMS was labeled IR. Given the recent school shootings, parents, staff, and community members would like to see our district focus on building the emotional well-being of our students. Research shows a strong connection between mindfulness practice and improved test scores. A study from the University of California Santa Barbara showed that a two-week training increased students' reading comprehension scores, working memory and attention (Goldstein, 2013).

Other areas of concern from the the AMS Student Needs Assessment are goal setting, motivation, paying attention, anger management, and stress/anxiety. AMS serves approximately 700 students. One hundred and ninety-nine students completed the Student Needs Assessment.



A continued need at the campus level is for guidance curriculum and resources that help to combat these middle school struggles. More changes in the structure and function of the brain occur during adolescence than during any other developmental stage (Steinberg, 2011). Students need guidance and practice to develop the social emotional knowledge and skills that are necessary to support optimal brain development for academic success, decision making abilities, and mental health.

Campus will host leadership meetings with mentor teams to discuss campus needs and increase communication forums. This will decrease issues at campus level as there will be a team devoted to problem solving campus issues each month or as they arise. Allowing staff and student voice at these leadership meetings will increase a sense of community and better the campus.

References

Goldstein, E. (2013). Teens get more than higher test scores with mindfulness. *Mindful*. Retrieved from https://www.mindful.org/teens-get-more-than-higher-test-scores-with-mindfulness/

Kim, H. (2013). Exercise rehabilitation for smartphone addiction. Journal of Exercise Rehabilitation, 9(6), 500-505. Doi:10.12965/jer.130080

Steinberg, L. (2011). Demystifying the adolescent brain. Educatinal Leadership, 68(7), 42-46.

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Schedule #13—Needs Assessment (cont.)

County-district number or vendor ID: 107-901

Amendment # (for amendments only):

Part 2: Alignment with Grant Goals and Objectives. List your top five needs, in rank order of assigned priority. Describe how those needs would be effectively addressed by implementation of this grant program. Response is limited to space provided, front side only. Use Arial font, no smaller than 10 point.

#	Identified Need	How Implemented Grant Program Would Address
1,	Increased test scores	Kagan Strategies will increase student interaction as well as classroom engagement. Book studies will increase student literacy rates. The mentor program will provide best practices for classroom teachers. Flexible seating will allow student choice in where the student learns. SEL will increase self regulation allowing student focus to be on academics.
2.	Decrease in office referrals and the number of students placed in the District Alternative Education Program.	SEL will provide self monitoring tools to remove themselves from potential situations that could arise in disciplinary action. Mindfulness and gratitude will help students reframe and focus their energy towards the postitive. Flexible seating will allow students to learn in an environment that best suites them.
3.	Increase DRA scores of identified low readers.	Increasing the amount of high interest titles in the library as well as within the classroom will encourage struggling readers. The mentor program will provide support to new or struggling teachers when it comes to the RTI process as well as tips for differientated learning. Providing copies of the books to the students will increase the amount of printed books the students have access to at home. This will also encourage conversations at home as well as allow parents to be an important part of the education process.
4.	Increase in students' perceived ability to set goals and monitor motivation level.	SEL will help students focus their energy on beneficial tasks. Gratitude journals will center students and staff allowing them to reflect on positive parts of their journey.
5.	Decrease teacher turnover and retain highly qualified and quality teachers.	Using the mentor program, staff will have additional support in/outside the classroom to help with teacher burnout and provide an outlet to new teachers. Fostering new to district teachers in the Athens' way will allow campus administration to focus on academics rather than hiring.

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	Schedule #14—Management Plan							
Co	unty-district numb	er or vendor ID: 107-901 Amendment # (for amendments only):						
INV	art 1: Staff Qualifications. List the titles of the primary project personnel and any external consultants projected to be avolved in the implementation and delivery of the program, along with desired qualifications, experience, and any equested certifications. Response is limited to space provided, front side only. Use Arial font, no smaller than 10 point.							
#	Title	Desired Qualifications, Experience, Certifications						
1.	Kagan Instructional Strategies	Two of three elementary campuses have been trained in Kagan Strategies. In order to increase cohesive structures, Athens Middle School along with the third elementary will complete Kagan training. Trainers will be from the company. The district has common language using the Common Instructional Framework; however, using Kagan will deepen the alignment and ease the transition into middle school.						
2.	Social Emotional Learning Training	District will work with Region 10 service center to coordinate a series of trainings using presenters they have relationships with to fully train Athens Middle School staff on SEL and the benefits in the classroom.						
3.	Athens Middle School Admin team	The administration team at Athens Middle School will manage the plan while being overseen by the district office. Each member of the team will be in charge of an aspect of the plan. The counselors will be instrumental in SEL guidance lessons and supporting the teachers' needs within the classroom. Principal and assistant principals will oversee the Kagan Instructional strategies as well as the flexible seating to be monitored during classroom evaluations and walkthroughs.						
4.								
5.								
6.								

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Schedule #14—Management Plan (cont.)

County-district number or vendor ID: 107-901

Amendment # (for amendments only):

Part 2: Milestones and Timeline. Summarize the major objectives of the planned project, along with defined milestones and projected timelines. Response is limited to space provided, front side only. Use Arial font, no smaller than 10 point.

#	Objective		Milestone	Begin Activity	End Activity
-		1.			
	Train staff on	2.	Kagan training occurs in August. Kagan Strategies will be revisited during weekly	08/07/2018	06/01/2020
	Kagan Strategies	2.	PLCs.	08/07/2018	06/01/2020
1.	to align campuses and increase	3.	Kagan Strategies will be monitored in classroom	08/20/2018	06/01/2020
			walkthroughs and observations.		00/01/2020
	engagement	4.	Evaluate effectiveness of strategies mid year	08/20/2018	12/14/2018
		5.	Evaluate effective of strategies at end of year	03/01/2019	06/01/2019
	Train staff on	1.	SEL training occurs in August.	08/07/2018	06/01/2020
	Social Emotional Learning to	2.	Staff and students will receive gratitude journals to be used daily.	08/07/2018	06/01/2020
2.	increase awareness and	3.	Monthly theme/book will be presented at the beginning of each month.	08/20/2018	06/01/2020
	meet the needs of	4.	Evaluate effectiveness of theme/book each month	08/20/2018	06/01/2019
	our students.	5.	STANSON OF STANSON COST MORE	00/20/2010	00/01/2019
	Flexible Seating in	1.	Purchase flexible seating	08/07/2019	09/15/2018
	the classrooms to	2.	Evaluate student use during	08/20/2018	06/01/2020
3.	maximize		walkthroughs/classroom observations	i	
٠.	classroom	3.	Evaluate effectiveness of seating mid year	08/20/2018	12/14/2018
	environment for all	4.	Evaluate effective of seating at end of year	03/01/2019	06/01/2019
	to thrive.	5.		XX/XX/XXXX	XX/XX/XXX
	Train staff on mindfulness to	1.	Mindfulness training occurs in August.	08/07/2018	06/01/2020
		2.	Mindfulness training will be revisited during weekly PLCs.	08/07/2018	06/01/2020
4.	empower staff and students to reset	3.	Mindfulness training will be monitored in classroom walkthroughs and observations.	08/20/2018	06/01/2020
	when needed.	4.	Evaluate effectiveness of strategies mid year	08/20/2018	12/14/2018
		5.	Evaluate effective of strategies at end of year	03/01/2019	06/01/2019
j	Increase student access to literacy	1.	Purchase books in varying levels to support the content/student need.	08/07/2018	06/01/2020
5.	by building classroom libraries	2.	Introduce monthly book and theme that students will read at school/home. Students will keep books.	08/07/2018	06/01/2020
	with high interest	3.	Evaluate libraries/content at end of year	03/01/2019	06/01/2019
- [materials.	4.		XX/XX/XXXX	XX/XX/XXXX
	materials.	5.		XX/XX/XXXX	XX/XX/XXXX
		1.		XX/XX/XXXX	XX/XX/XXXX
		2.		XX/XX/XXXX	XX/XX/XXXX
6.		3.		XX/XX/XXXX	XX/XX/XXXX
		4.		XX/XX/XXXX	XX/XX/XXXX
_		5.		XX/XX/XXXX	XX/XX/XXXX
		1.		XX/XX/XXXX	XX/XX/XXXX
_		2.		XX/XX/XXXX	XX/XX/XXXX
7.		3.		XX/XX/XXXX	XX/XX/XXXX
		4.		XX/XX/XXXX	XX/XX/XXXX
_		5.		XX/XX/XXXX	XX/XX/XXXX
7.		1.		XX/XX/XXXX	XX/XX/XXXX
		2.		XX/XX/XXXX	XX/XX/XXXX

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	3.	XX/XX/XXXX	XX/XX/XXXX
	4.	XX/XX/XXXX	XX/XX/XXXX
11-1	5	XX/XX/XXXX	XX/XX/XXXX

Unless pre-award costs are specifically approved by TEA, grant funds will be used to pay only for activities occurring between the beginning and ending dates of the grant, as specified on the Notice of Grant Award.

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Schedule #14—Management Plan (cont.)

County-district number or vendor ID: 107-901

Amendment # (for amendments only):

Part 3: Feedback and Continuous Improvement. Describe the process and procedures your organization currently has in place for monitoring the attainment of goals and objectives. Include a description of how the plan for attaining goals and objectives is adjusted when necessary and how changes are communicated to administrative staff, teachers, students, parents, and members of the community. Response is limited to space provided, front side only. Use Arial font, no smaller than 10 point.

Click and type here to enter response.

Athens Independent School District monitors progress through the district's Strategic Plan. Campus needs assessments are based on the broader goals from the AISD Strategic Plan which is approved by the School Board Trustees, community members, and staff. Needs assessments are collected throughout the year, along with state data, to highlight the needs that will be addressed. A large committee meets and discusses the needs and changes necessary to improve prior to passing each area to an administrator within the district who will lead a group of staff, community members, and parents to get all stakeholder feedback. These leaders then present to the original group who approves each strand prior to getting School Board approval. Throughout the year, administrators from each campus present data to the directors and School Board correlating each piece of information back to the Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan is evaluated annually with all stakeholders. The committee decides whether to continue with the plan, make changes, or discontinue.

The plan at Athens Middle School is aligned with the current needs assessment and state data. The plan will be monitored by district level staff while being mangaged at the campus level. Constant communication about the progress of the plan will be communicated between the campus principal and the assistant superindent of schools. Changes that need to be made will be discussed at the district and campus level. Campus will communicate any changes to the staff in the normal modes such as staff meetings, emails, group reminders, and leadership team meetings. Parents will receive information about the campus initiatives at the beginning of the school year during a back to school seminar. Parents will track progress using campus social media, campus newsletters, call outs, community newspaper, and student group reports.

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Schedule #14—Management Plan (cont.)

County-district number or vendor ID: 107-901

Amendment # (for amendments only):

Part 4: Sustainability and Commitment. Describe any ongoing, existing efforts that are similar or related to the planned project. How will you coordinate efforts to maximize effectiveness of grant funds? How will you ensure that all project participants remain committed to the project's success? Response is limited to space provided, front side only. Use Arial font, no smaller than 10 point.

As part of the District Strategic Plan, Social Emotional Learning is a focus of the district over the next two years. Grant funds will help propel Athens Middle School into implementation on a larger scale. Grant funds will ensure students are able to have differientated material based on the character trait each month. Students will be able to have conversations with their younger siblings who will be studying the same SEL trait that month. This will not only strengthen the senese of community within Athens, Texas but will help produce well-rounded citizens that are prepared for the real world.

Part of ensuring that we are meeting the students emotional and academic needs is creating comfortable, innovative classrooms that increase engagement and passion for learning. The district has started this process through grants and bond funds; however, additional grant funds would allow Athens Middle School to reset and introduce students back after summer break to refreshed environments they can take pride in.

As we have seen in recent media reports, students' emotional well being needs to be a priority. The district/campus will continue these initiatives to meet the changing needs of our world regardless of grant funds; however, grant funds would ensure the campus has the materials needed to fully train the staff, refresh the classrooms and libraries, and focus on social emotional well being of the students while integrating literacy.

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		S	Schedule #15—Project Evaluation	
County-district number or vendor ID: 107-901 Amendment # (for amendments only):			O1 Amendment # (for amendments only):	
effe	ctiveness of project strategies, incl	udina	ds and processes you will use on an ongoing basis to examine the the indicators of program accomplishment that are associated with each. It side only. Use Arial font, no smaller than 10 point.	
#	Evaluation Method/Process		Associated Indicator of Accomplishment	
	Monitor Discipline & Attendance	1.	Decreased office referrals	
1.		2.	Increased positive student/teacher relationships	
			Improved attendance for historically truant students	
_	Monitor Student Achievement	1.	Improved performance on classroom assignments/assessments	
2.	2. 3.		Increased DRA levels of identified struggling readers	
			Improved performance on Reading STAAR	
3.	Survey Teachers & Students	1.	Decreased off-task behaviors	
J.		2.	Increased positive relationships and responses to stressors	
		3.	Improved school culture and unity	
	Conduct Classroom	1.	Increased engagement	
4.	Walkthroughs	2.	Kagan strategies being used to increase collaboration	
		3.	Focus on book studies and literacy libraries	
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Schedule	#15-	Project	Evaluation

Amendment # (for amendments only):

Part 2: Data Collection and Problem Correction. Describe the processes for collecting data that are included in the evaluation design, including program-level data such as program activities and the number of participants served, and student-level academic data, including achievement results and attendance data. How are problems with project delivery to be identified and corrected throughout the project? Response is limited to space provided, front side only. Use Arial font, no smaller than 10 point.

At a campus level, Athens Middle School will monitor the progress of this project through discipline and attendance data, teacher and student input, and classroom walkthroughs. Discipline and attendance data will be obtained through Skyward reports and teacher discipline/parent contact logs. These reports will be monitored on a monthly basis, and action will be taken to correct problems with the project design. AMS Administrators will conduct frequent walkthroughs focusing on engagement, collaboration, and implementation of required project components. Classroom walkthrough data will identify implementation concerns in each classroom.

Student-level data will be crucial to monitoring the success of the program. At a student level, the project will be monitored through discipline and attendance data; student grades, unit test data, and DRA levels; surveys and conversations with teachers and students. Data will be obtained from Skyward, DMAC, teacher records, and informal conversations with staff and students. Because STAAR data can only be monitored at the completion of the school year, benchmark testing will be used to monitor progress toward improved STAAR performance.

Correction of project implementation concerns at a campus level will be done through weekly follow-up PLC trainings and one-on-one conversations with staff members as needed to ensure the project is consistently implemented with fidelity.

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Schedule #16—Responses to Statutory Requirements	Schedule	#16-Res	ponses t	o Statutory	Requirements
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Amendment # (for amendments only):

Statutory Requirement 1a: Describe how the applicant will carry out its school support and improvement activities. Depending on if the campus is identified as a 2017-2018 Priority School or a 2017-2018 Focus School, describe how the applicant will develop a school improvement plan for the Priority School, or support the Focus School with the development and implementation of a targeted school improvement plan. Response is limited to space provided, front side only. Use Arial font, no smaller than 10 point.

Click and type here to enter response.

Athens Middle School is identified as a 2017-2018 Focus School. The campus has made changes based on the latest accountability and projects positive gains on the 2018 STAAR test; however, literacy continues to be a district priority. The campus leadership team meets with the district leaders monthly to discuss progress and changes needed. The assistant superintendent will work closely with the campus administration to continue to evolve and produce positive results. District leadership visits Athens Middle School classrooms often for walkthroughs, evaluations, and meetings to see how the district office can support each classroom teacher. Teachers are surveyed and support looks different for each classroom based on student need and teacher style. The district will continue to monitor the implementation plan at Athens Middle School through meetings, reports to all stakeholders, presentations to the community, and progress on the Strategic Plan.

By offering a mentor program for new and struggling teachers, we provide needed training to ensure retention of quality teachers who are supported. Having a mentor increases teacher effectiveness and lowers teacher burnout by providing needed support and experience.

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Schedule #16—Resp	onses to Statutor	y Requirements
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Amendment # (for amendments only):

Statutory Requirement 1b: Describe how the applicant will monitor schools receiving Title I, Part A funds, including how the district will monitor school improvement plans upon submission and implementation and how the applicant will implement additional action following unsuccessful implementation of such plan after a number of years determined by the district. Response is limited to space provided, front side only. Use Arial font, no smaller than 10 point.

In order to increase parental involvement and communications within our community, book studies will occur both in the classroom and at home. Campuses will align SEL topics to ensure common language can occur in the homes among siblings.

Increasing the amount of student organizations and clubs will allow more opportunities to participate in extra curricular activities. These clubs will also serve the Athens community which will increase a sense of community.

Current plan supports the needs of our Title 1 population. District will continue to follow improvement plan as well as evaluate the plan during implementation. If changes need to be made, the district committee will discuss needed changes and communicate to all necessary parties. Leadership teams and communication forums will allow staff and student voices during this time of change if needed.

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Schedule #16-	-Responses t	o Statutory	Requirements
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Amendment # (for amendments only):

Statutory Requirement 1c: Describe how the applicant will use a rigorous review process to recruit, screen, select, and evaluate any external partners with whom the applicant will partner. Response is limited to space provided, front side only. Use Arial font, no smaller than 10 point.

In order to best train our teachers on Kagan Strategies, we will partner directly with certified trainers from Kagan to provide a workshop to AMS staff. We would start with the basic cooperative learning training to provide a foundation for all other trainings. Staff would learn a range of structures, the four basic principles of cooperative learning, and the seven keys to successful implementation. The basic training would be tailored for secondary teachers and then spread throughout the year for coaching on improvement and fidelity. A Kagan Certified National Trainer would also work with teachers and instructional specialists to integrate structures into lessons. This would be done in small groups with like content or grade levels.

Athens ISD will work with Region 10 service center to coordinate a series of trainings using presenters they have relationships with to fully train Athens Middle School staff on SEL and the benefits in the classroom. We would follow the recommendations of the presenters for a training schedule. These strategies would be communicated to students through guidance lessons and our monthly book studies. Teachers would receive additional trainings through PLC.

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Schedule #16—Responses to Statutory Requirements
County-district number or vendor ID: 107-901 Amendment # (for amendments only):
Statutory Requirement 1d: Describe how the applicant will align other federal, state, and local resources to carry out the activities supported with funds received under this subsection. Response is limited to space provided, front side only. Use Arial font, no smaller than 10 point.
Athens Middle School currently uses federal, state, and local resources to introduce new instructional strategies, purchase classroom furniture, and buy the needed materials for the students or classroom. Grant funds would allow immediate implementation of character education, ensuring each student had their own copy of each book as well as campus training that will cultivate a culture of understanding and responsiveness. Funds would also be used to transform the classrooms into refreshed learning spaces to start the year reengergized. Additional funds outside of the regularly provided would allow Athens Middle School to transform the culture and climate by training staff on SEL/mindfulness strategies.

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Schedule #16—Responses to Statutory Requirements

County-district number or vendor ID: 107-901

Amendment # (for amendments only):

Statutory Requirement 1e: Describe how the applicant will modify, as appropriate, practices and policies to provide operational flexibility that enables full and effective implementation of the plans. Response is limited to space provided, front side only. Use Arial font, no smaller than 10 point.

In order for Athens Middle School to implement this program successfully, we will train our teachers and staff strategies that allow our students to use learned coping skills to improve upon their social-emotional learning.

AMS has had success using cool-down cards with a select group of students. Cool-down cards allow a student the opportunity to remove himself or herself from a situation or classroom when the student feels overwhelmed with stress. Whereas traditional practices might have this student sent to the office to sit and wait to speak with an administrator, our own data has shown these students, through the use of their cool-down cards, have spent less time out of the classroom thus gaining more instructional time. Due to the fact that each student is only given a couple of cool-down cards, they are learning coping skills that help them prioritize when to use a card and when to remain in class.

Unfortunately, the students that need our help the most are typically viewed as out of control, disrespectful, and often spend a large portion of time out of the classroom due to disciplinary incidents. A recent book study of Dr. Ross W. Greene's "Lost At School" has given AMS a new strategy in our toolbox to work with these students. Dr. Greene refers to this strategy as Plan B. Plan B uses an ALSUP, Assessment of Lagging Skills and Unsolved Problems, to pinpoint why a problem is occurring and the specific situations in which it occurs. This leads to conversations with the student that allows the student ownership with his or her own difficulties. Plan B is a relationship building process that involves skills such as empathy and reflective listening. This strategy was used with a handful of students at AMS the latter part of the school year with success, and AMS plans to move forward with this strategy by training teachers and staff how to use Plan B.

Flexible seating is another non-traditional strategy that will help enable full and effective implementation of our plan. Flexible seating allows students choice which fosters learning through student ownership. Traditional desks in rows seating can make students territorial or possessive of their space whereas flexible seating encourages students to share space and supplies. Flexible seating also allows for easier collaboration. Students can quickly pair up, work in small groups, or discuss as a whole class. Most importantly, a flexible seating classroom can become a student-led classroom as opposed to the traditional teacher-led "sit and get" classroom.

By having mentors in key positions among each grade level, Athens Middle School would ensure that best practices were being implemented across all classes. These teachers would meet with their collegues regularly, offering experienced advice and assistance to new and struggling teachers. By training teachers in best practices, we hope to retain quality teachers who are effective in the classroom.

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Schedule #16—Responses to Statutory Requirements	
County-district number or vendor ID: 107-901	Amendment # (for amendments only):
Statutory Requirement 2: Describe how the plan will incorporate one or more evidence-based strategies during the	
implementation. Response is limited to space provided, front side only. Use Arial font, no smaller than 10 point.	

Social Emotional Learning is a widely researched, evolving topic in education currently. The campus will stay on top of the latest research and align campus practices with strategies proven to be successful. The campus will also communicate with Region 10 and its affiliates to contract assistance and campus visits to continue to meet the needs of our learners and staff.

Kagan Strategies and increased access to high interest literacy will increase engagement and participation within the classroom. Students will interact with their peers in order to collaborate in group work, scaffold their learning, and take ownership of their education process.

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Schedule #17—Responses to TEA Program Requirements	
County-district number or vendor ID: 107-901	Amendment # (for amendments only):
TEA Program Requirement 1a: Identify which of the following transformation models the grant intends to support. Only one option may be selected. Response is limited to space provided, front side only. Use Arial font, no smaller than 10 point.	
Partnership Implementation	
☐ P2 Partnership	
☐ IMO Partnership	
New School Implementation	
Reset	
☐ Fresh-Start	
<u>Transformation Implementation</u>	
☐ Talent Transformation Model	
⊠ Redesign	
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Schedule #17—Responses to TEA Program Requirements

County-district number or vendor ID: 107-901

Amendment # (for amendments only):

TEA Program Requirement 1b: Describe the school transformation plan, including but not limited to, how the transformation will improve student outcomes, as well as how the applicant will apply lessons learned throughout the LEA. Response is limited to space provided, front side only. Use Arial font, no smaller than 10 point.

Research has shown that mindfulness leads to a deepened awareness and increased concentration which results in increased academic time. Focusing on mindfulness helps all stakeholders, students, teachers and parents. This training will allow all parties to deal with the daily emotions of being overwhelmed, busy, rumination, and help self regulate. Increasing mental muscle brings focus back where the individual would want it, which would be academics in the classroom. Increasing compassion in our middle school would help the transition between elementary and middle school as well as help combat the issues that arise with peers and social media. Increasing student resilence also helps prepare students for high school as well as the real world. With these tools, students academics will continue to improve.

Social Emotional Learning helps students self regulate and cope with daily stressors which will also lead to more time in the classroom focusing on academics. Teachers and staff will continue to build good rapport with students while focusing on character traits that help make students more successful both academically and emotionally. Increased academic time as well as positive staff to student relationships will postiviely impact student achievement. Theses coordinated strategies help bring cohesion among the campus which would increase academics.

Staff and students will focus on gratitude throughout the year positively impacting the campus culture. Shared responsibility among staff and students will also help build a sense of community and Hornet Pride. Having journaling be a part of the daily routine at Athens Middle school helps create a routine of being thankful. Research by Dr. Robert Emmons and Dr. Jeffrey Froh show that keeping a gratitude journal helps students achieve higher grades, set higher goals and create a sense of community.

Flexible seating allows students a sense of empowerment by having choice to some degree on where they learn the best. Flexible seating allows students to move which increases oxygen to the brain which helps keep their minds alert and focused. Flexible seating allows students to find their best spot to remain calm and productive while building a sense of community within the classroom. Flexible seating also allows students to pair up and collaborate with ease. Creating environments where students are comfortable and have the flexibility to change and move will increase time on task resulting in higher academics.

A mentor program among teachers provides an opportunity to grow teachers in the Athens ISD way. Selecting teachers who have proven excellence in their field to guide new hires and struggling teachers will ensure teacher resilience. This support ultimately benefits all steakholders by ensuring teacher have the needed tools and guidance to be successful in the classroom.

Navigating middle school in this ever changing world is difficult for students who struggle to find a place to belong at school. After school clubs offer students an outlet in a low-stakes environment to connect with staff and other students. This allows our students to grow their social network in the school by interacting with other students and staff members they may not have otherwise had exposure to. The relationships formed in these clubs allow students to feel like an empowered community member of our school. A sense of belonging will increase academics and create a positive culture among staff and students.

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Schedule #17—Responses to TEA Program Requirements	
County-district number or vendor ID: 107-901 Amendr	ment # (for amendments only):
TEA Program Requirement 2: Describe how the grant aligns to and accelerates th action of the LEA. If an applicant LEA cannot identify its theory of action, describe he select a theory of action among the Lone Star Governance models (see p. 31 of the Manual). Response is limited to space provided, front side only. Use Arial font, no sn	w the LEA has selected or will Lone Star Governance Participant
Athens Independent School District operates with the best interest of the student in ristrives to put individiduals in leadership roles who will increase productivity at each leas a support system and focuses their time an efforts on critical functions of campus compenents to increase that area. Campuses are given autonomy while operating ushared vision. All components of this grant plan are aligned with the district Strategic will continue to be student focused. Funds from this grant will be used to strengthen the portions of the Strategic Plan as outlined above.	evel. Central Administration serves accountability and the necessary ander the district Strategic Plan and c Plan. Implementation of this plan
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Schedule #17—Responses to TEA Program Requirements
County-district number or vendor ID: 107-901 Amendment # (for amendments only):
TEA Program Requirement 3: Explain how high-level district and community stakeholders were educated about the selected school transformation strategy, including a description of stakeholders engaged in and supporting the school transformation strategy. Response is limited to space provided, front side only. Use Arial font, no smaller than 10 point.
The district undergoes a lengthy process through strategic planning which allows voice from over 100 invididuals varying from parents, community members, campus and district level staff as well as students. Prior to approving the strategic plan, meetings are held with each strands leadership committee to get feedback and change as needed. All portions of this plan align with the district strategic plan, the vision for Athens ISD, as well as the voice of the community.

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Schedule #17—Resp	onses to TEA	Program Rec	uirements
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County-district number or vendor ID: 107-901

Amendment # (for amendments only):

TEA Program Requirement 4: Describe how the selected school transformation strategy would be managed or supported, including which offices and LEA and/or district positions will oversee the effort and why they are particularly qualified for such a task. Response is limited to space provided, front side only. Use Arial font, no smaller than 10 point.

This plan will be managed at the campus level with support from the district office. The assistant superintendent, along with other district level staff, will continue campus visits, walk throughs and classroom observations to ensure implantation and postitive progress is visible. The assistant superindent has been a secondary principal and continues to focus on the needs at the campus level. The assistant superindent was the leader at Athens High School and has implemented many improvement plans at the campus level to help Athens High School receive accolades. As a leader who knows the population as well as the level of academics needed to be successful at the next level, the assistant superintdent will work closely with the middle school staff to ensure plan is implemented with fidelity and the necessary support is provided.

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Schedule #18—Equitable Access and Participation					
County-District Number or Vendor ID: 107-901 Amendment number (for amendments only):				only):	
No B	arriers				
#	No Barriers		Students	Teachers	Others
000	The applicant assures that no barriers exist to equitable acce participation for any groups	ss and	\boxtimes	\boxtimes	
Barrio	er: Gender-Specific Bias				
#	Strategies for Gender-Specific Bias		Students	Teachers	Others
A01	Expand opportunities for historically underrepresented groups participate	to fully			
A02	Provide staff development on eliminating gender bias				
A03	Ensure strategies and materials used with students do not progender bias				
A04	Develop and implement a plan to eliminate existing discrimina effects of past discrimination on the basis of gender	ition and the			
A05	Ensure compliance with the requirements in Title IX of the Education				
A06	Ensure students and parents are fully informed of their rights and responsibilities with regard to participation in the program				
A99	99 Other (specify)				
Barrie	r: Cultural, Linguistic, or Economic Diversity				
#	Strategies for Cultural, Linguistic, or Economic Div	ersity	Students	Teachers	Others
B01	Provide program information/materials in home language		\boxtimes		\boxtimes
B02	Provide interpreter/translator at program activities				
B03	Increase awareness and appreciation of cultural and linguistic diversity through a variety of activities, publications, etc.				
B04	Communicate to students, teachers, and other program benef appreciation of students' and families' linguistic and cultural ba	ackgrounds			
B05	Develop/maintain community involvement/participation in prog activities		\boxtimes		
B06	Provide staff development on effective teaching strategies for diverse populations		\boxtimes		
B07	Ensure staff development is sensitive to cultural and linguistic differences and communicates an appreciation for diversity				
B08	Seek technical assistance from education service center, technical assistance center, Title I, Part A school support team, or other provider				
B09	Provide parenting training				
B10	Provide a parent/family center				
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B11	Involve parents from a variety of backgrounds in decision making					
Schedule #18—Equitable Access and Participation						
County-District Number or Vendor ID: 107-901 Amendment number (for amendments only):						
No Ba	urriers				<u> </u>	
#	# No Barriers Students Teachers Others				Others	
000	The applicant assures that no barriers exist to equita participation for any groups	ble acce	ss and		\boxtimes	
Barrie	er: Gender-Specific Bias					
#	Strategies for Gender-Specific B	Bias		Students	Teachers	Others
A01	Expand opportunities for historically underrepresente participate	ed groups	to fully			
A02	Provide staff development on eliminating gender bias	s				
A03	Ensure strategies and materials used with students of gender bias	do not pro	mote			
A04	Develop and implement a plan to eliminate existing of effects of past discrimination on the basis of gender					
A05	Ensure compliance with the requirements in Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of gender					
A06	Ensure students and parents are fully informed of their rights and responsibilities with regard to participation in the program		and			
A99	9 Other (specify)					
Barrie	r: Cultural, Linguistic, or Economic Diversity					
#	Strategies for Cultural, Linguistic, or Econo	omic Div	ersity	Students	Teachers	Others
B01	Provide program information/materials in home langu	ıage		Ø	\boxtimes	\boxtimes
B02	Provide interpreter/translator at program activities					
B03	Increase awareness and appreciation of cultural and through a variety of activities, publications, etc.	linguistic	diversity			
B04	Communicate to students, teachers, and other progra appreciation of students' and families' linguistic and c	am benef cultural ba	iciaries an ickgrounds			
B05	Develop/maintain community involvement/participation activities	n in prog	ram	×		
B06	Provide staff development on effective teaching strategies for diverse populations		diverse	×	\boxtimes	
B07	Ensure staff development is sensitive to cultural and linguistic differences and communicates an appreciation for diversity					
B08	Seek technical assistance from education service center, technical assistance center, Title I, Part A school support team, or other provider		\boxtimes		\boxtimes	
B09	Provide parenting training				\boxtimes	
B10	Provide a parent/family center					
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B11	Involve parents from a variety of backgrounds in decision making		\boxtimes

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Schedule #18—Equitable Access and Participation (cont.)					
County-District Number or Vendor ID: 107-901 Amendment number (for amendments only):					only):
Barrie	er: Cultural, Linguistic, or Economic Diversity (cont.)				
#	Strategies for Cultural, Linguistic, or Economi	ic Diversity	Students	Teachers	Others
B12	Offer "flexible" opportunities for parent involvement inclu learning activities and other activities that don't require parent the school			×	
B13	Provide child care for parents participating in school acti	ivities			
B14	Acknowledge and include family members' diverse skills knowledge in school activities	s, talents, and			
B15	Provide adult education, including high school equivalent ESL classes, or family literacy program	ncy (HSE) and/or			\boxtimes
B16	Offer computer literacy courses for parents and other probeneficiaries	ogram			
B17	Conduct an outreach program for traditionally "hard to re	each" parents	\boxtimes		\boxtimes
B18	Coordinate with community centers/programs				\boxtimes
B19	Seek collaboration/assistance from business, industry, or institutions of higher education			Ø	
B20	Develop and implement a plan to eliminate existing discrimination and the effects of past discrimination on the basis of race, national origin, and color				
B21	Ensure compliance with the requirements in Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, national origin, and color				
B22	Ensure students, teachers, and other program beneficiaries are informed				
B23	Provide mediation training on a regular basis to assist in disputes and complaints	resolving			
B99	Other (specify)	-			
Barrie	r: Gang-Related Activities				
#	Strategies for Gang-Related Activities	5	Students	Teachers	Others
C01	Provide early intervention		\boxtimes		\boxtimes
C02	Provide counseling		Ø	×	
C03	Conduct home visits by staff				\boxtimes
C04	Provide flexibility in scheduling activities				×
C05	Recruit volunteers to assist in promoting gang-free communities				
C06	Provide mentor program			×	\boxtimes
C07	Provide before/after school recreational, instructional, cul	ltural, or artistic		\boxtimes	
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programs/activities	

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Schedule #18—Equitable Access and Participation (cont.)					
County-District Number or Vendor ID: 107-901 Amendment number (for amendments only):					
Barrie	er: Gang-Related Activities (cont.)				-
#	Strategies for Gang-Related Activiti	es	Students	Teachers	Others
C08	Provide community service programs/activities				×
C09	Conduct parent/teacher conferences	<u> </u>	×	\boxtimes	\boxtimes
C10	Strengthen school/parent compacts		\boxtimes		
C11	Establish collaborations with law enforcement agencies	5	×	\boxtimes	\boxtimes
C12	Provide conflict resolution/peer mediation strategies/pro	_			
C13	Seek collaboration/assistance from business, industry, higher education				\boxtimes
C14	Provide training/information to teachers, school staff, a with gang-related issues	nd parents to deal			
C99	Other (specify)				
Barrie	r: Drug-Related Activities	<u> </u>		91	_
#	Strategies for Drug-Related Activities		Students	Teachers	Others
D01	Provide early identification/intervention			\boxtimes	\boxtimes
D02	Provide counseling			\boxtimes	\boxtimes
D03	<u> </u>				\boxtimes
D04	Recruit volunteers to assist in promoting drug-free schools and communities				
D05	Provide mentor program				
D06	Provide before/after school recreational, instructional, or programs/activities	ultural, or artistic	\boxtimes		
D07	Provide community service programs/activities				
D08	Provide comprehensive health education programs	·			
D09	Conduct parent/teacher conferences				
D10	Establish school/parent compacts				\boxtimes
D11	Develop/maintain community collaborations		\boxtimes		
D12	Provide conflict resolution/peer mediation strategies/pro	grams			
D13	Seek collaboration/assistance from business, industry, higher education	or institutions of	\boxtimes	×	
D14	Provide training/information to teachers, school staff, and parents to deal with drug-related issues			\boxtimes	
D99	Other (specify)				
Barrier	: Visual Impairments				
#	Strategies for Visual Impairments		Students	Teachers	Others
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E01	Provide early identification and intervention	\boxtimes	\boxtimes
E02	Provide program materials/information in Braille		

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Schedule #18—Equitable Access and Participation (cont.)						
Count	County-District Number or Vendor ID: 107-901 Amendment number (for amendments only):					
Barrie	er: Visual Impairments	-				
#	Strategies for Visual Impairmer	nts		Students	Teachers	Others
E03	Provide program materials/information in large type					
E04	Provide program materials/information in digital/audi		· · · · · ·			
E05	Provide staff development on effective teaching strat impairment	tegies for vi	sual			
E06	Provide training for parents					
E07	Format materials/information published on the intern accessibility	et for ADA				
E99	Other (specify)					
Barrie	r: Hearing Impairments					
#	Strategies for Hearing Impairme	nts				
F01	Provide early identification and intervention					
F02	Provide interpreters at program activities					
F03	Provide captioned video material					
F04	Provide program materials and information in visual format					
F05	3,,					
F06	Provide staff development on effective teaching strat impairment	tegies for he	earing			
F07	Provide training for parents					
F99	Other (specify)					
	r: Learning Disabilities					
#	Strategies for Learning Disabiliti	ies		Students	Teachers	Others
G01	Provide early identification and intervention			\boxtimes	\boxtimes	\boxtimes
G02	Expand tutorial/mentor programs			\boxtimes	\boxtimes	\boxtimes
G03	Provide staff development in identification practices a teaching strategies	and effective	9			
G04	Provide training for parents in early identification and	interventio	n	\boxtimes		\boxtimes
G99	Other (specify)					
Barrie	: Other Physical Disabilities or Constraints					
#	Strategies for Other Physical Disabilities of			Students	Teachers	Others
H01	Develop and implement a plan to achieve full participation by students with other physical disabilities or constraints			\boxtimes	×	
H02	Provide staff development on effective teaching strategies			\boxtimes		
H03				\boxtimes	\boxtimes	
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H99	Other (specify)			

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Schedule #18—Equitable Access and Participation (cont.)						
Count	County-District Number or Vendor ID: 107-901 Amendment number (for amendments only):					
Barrie	r: inaccessible Physical Structures					
#	Strategies for Inaccessible Physical Structures		Students	Teachers	Others	
J01	Develop and implement a plan to achieve full participation by s with other physical disabilities/constraints	students	Ø		×	
J02	Ensure all physical structures are accessible					
_J99	Other (specify)					
Barrie	r: Absenteeism/Truancy		-			
#	Strategies for Absenteeism/Truancy		Students	Teachers	Others	
K01	Provide early identification/intervention		\boxtimes		\boxtimes	
K02	Develop and implement a truancy intervention plan			×	\boxtimes	
K03	Conduct home visits by staff		×	\boxtimes	×	
K04	4 Recruit volunteers to assist in promoting school attendance					
K05	Provide mentor program					
K06	Provide before/after school recreational or educational activities		\boxtimes			
K07	Conduct parent/teacher conferences		\boxtimes	×	\boxtimes	
K08	Strengthen school/parent compacts		\boxtimes	\boxtimes	\boxtimes	
K09	Develop/maintain community collaborations		\boxtimes		\boxtimes	
K10	Coordinate with health and social services agencies				\boxtimes	
K11	Coordinate with the juvenile justice system		\boxtimes		\boxtimes	
K12	Seek collaboration/assistance from business, industry, or institution	utions of				
K99	Other (specify)					
Barrier	: High Mobility Rates					
#	Strategies for High Mobility Rates		Students	Teachers	Others	
L01	Coordinate with social services agencies		\boxtimes	×	\boxtimes	
L02	Establish collaborations with parents of highly mobile families					
L03	Establish/maintain timely record transfer system			\boxtimes		
L99	Other (specify)					
Barrier	: Lack of Support from Parents					
#	Strategies for Lack of Support from Parents		Students	Teachers	Others	
M01	Develop and implement a plan to increase support from parents	5	\boxtimes		Ø	
M02	Conduct home visits by staff		\boxtimes		\boxtimes	

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Schedule #18—Equitable Access and Participation (cont.)						
Coun	County-District Number or Vendor ID: 107-901 Amendment number (for amendments only):					
Barrio	er: Lack of Support from Parents (cont.)					
#	Strategies for Lack of Support from Parents		Students	Teachers	Others	
M03	Recruit volunteers to actively participate in school activities					
M04	Conduct parent/teacher conferences		\boxtimes	\boxtimes		
M05	Establish school/parent compacts		\boxtimes			
M06	Provide parenting training		Ø			
M07	Provide a parent/family center					
M08	Provide program materials/information in home language				\boxtimes	
M09	Involve parents from a variety of backgrounds in school decis	9				
M10	Offer "flexible" opportunities for involvement, including home lactivities and other activities that don't require coming to scho	earning ol	\boxtimes	\boxtimes	\boxtimes	
M11	Provide child care for parents participating in school activities					
M12	Acknowledge and include family members' diverse skills, taler knowledge in school activities			×		
M13	Provide adult education, including HSE and/or ESL classes, or family literacy program			⊠		
M14	Conduct an outreach program for traditionally "hard to reach"	parents	\boxtimes		\boxtimes	
M15	115 Facilitate school health advisory councils four times a year			\boxtimes	\boxtimes	
M99	M99 Other (specify)					
Barrie	r: Shortage of Qualified Personnel					
#	Strategies for Shortage of Qualified Personnel		Students	Teachers	Others	
N01	Develop and implement a plan to recruit and retain qualified p				Ø	
N02	Recruit and retain personnel from a variety of racial, ethnic, ar minority groups	nd language		Ø	×	
N03	Provide mentor program for new personnel		\boxtimes	\boxtimes	\boxtimes	
N04	Provide intern program for new personnel					
N05	Provide an induction program for new personnel					
N06	Provide professional development in a variety of formats for pe	ersonnel	\boxtimes		\boxtimes	
N07	Collaborate with colleges/universities with teacher preparation	programs	\boxtimes		\boxtimes	
N99	Other (specify)					
Barrie	r: Lack of Knowledge Regarding Program Benefits					
#	Strategies for Lack of Knowledge Regarding Program I	Benefits	Students	Teachers	Others	
P01	P01 Develop and implement a plan to inform program beneficiaries of program activities and benefits					
P02	Publish newsletter/brochures to inform program beneficiaries of	of activities	⊠	\boxtimes		
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Schedule #18—Equitable Access and Participation (cont.)						
County-District Number or Vendor ID: 107-901 Amendment number (for amendments only):						
Barrie	er: Lack of Knowledge Regarding Program Benefits (cont.)					
#	Strategies for Lack of Knowledge Regarding Program E		Students	Teachers	Others	
P03	Provide announcements to local radio stations, newspapers, a appropriate electronic media about program activities/benefits	nd		\boxtimes	\boxtimes	
P99	Other (specify)	-				
Barrie	r: Lack of Transportation to Program Activities					
#	Strategies for Lack of Transportation		Students	Teachers	Others	
Q01	Provide transportation for parents and other program beneficia activities					
Q02	Offer "flexible" opportunities for involvement, including home le activities and other activities that don't require coming to school	ol	\boxtimes		\boxtimes	
Q03	Conduct program activities in community centers and other nei locations	ghborhood	\boxtimes	×	\boxtimes	
Q99	Other (specify)					
Barrie	r: Other Barriers					
#	Strategies for Other Barriers		Students	Teachers	Others	
Z99	Other barrier		П			
	Other strategy					
Z 99	Other barrier				П	
	Other strategy Other barrier					
Z 99	Other strategy					
	Other barrier					
Z99	Other strategy					
	Other barrier	-				
Z99	Other strategy					
700	Other barrier					
Z99	Other strategy					
Z 99	Other barrier					
233	Other strategy					
Z99	Other barrier			П		
	Other strategy					
Z 99	Other barrier					
Other strategy						
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700	Other barrier					
Z99	Other strategy					

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